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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/960,256
		Filing Date	September 20, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Grooms, Jamie M., et al.
		Group Art Unit	1651
		Examiner Name	Jean C. Witz
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	13996US02

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> PTO 1449/08A with references <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (sheets) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): RESPONSE TO SECOND RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT RETURN POSTCARD
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual Name	McAndrews Held & Malloy, Ltd.	
Signature	<i>Michael B Harlin</i>	
Date	June 21, 2004	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 21, 2004			
Name (Print/type)	Michael B. Harlin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,658
Signature	<i>Michael B Harlin</i>	Date	June 21, 2004



1651
Jfw

Attorney Docket No. RTI 128R-13996US02

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:
Grooms, Jamie M., et al.

Application Serial No.: 09/960,256

Filed: September 20, 2001

For: "Method of Preparing and
Processing Transplant Tissue"

Prior Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Jean C. Witz

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June 21, 2004

Michael B. Harlin
Registration No. 43,658
Attorney for Applicants

RESPONSE TO SECOND RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the Official Communication of May 19, 2004 restricting the Applicants' claimed invention. The Official Communication set one (1) month for a response, making this response due on Monday, June 21, 2004 (since June 19, 2004 was a Saturday).

The May 19, 2004 Official Communication made a second Restriction Requirement for this application. In the Official Communication, the Patent Office contended that the following two (2) inventions were being claimed:

Group I: Claims 1-8 and 13-34, drawn to a method of processing collagen-based tissue;

Group II: Claim 9, drawn to a processed collagen-based tissue.

Applicants traverse this restriction requirement because claim 9, like claims 1-8 and 13-34, is directed to a **method**. Claim 9 is not directed to a product, and it is respectfully submitted that the May 19, 2004 Official Communication is in error where it states that claim 9 is directed to a product rather than a method. Claim 9 was amended in Applicants' response to the previous restriction requirement. Claim 9, as amended, reads as follows:

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said collagen-based tissue is decellularized by cyclically contacting it with said decellularizing agent at positive and negative pressures.

Since claim 9 is directed to a method, the restriction requirement should be withdrawn, and all of the pending claims (claims 1-9 and 13-34) should be examined in this application.

To the extent an election is deemed necessary, the Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-8 and 13-34) with traverse.

In the event that any additional fees are required at this time, the Applicants hereby authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 13-0017 in the name of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.

Respectfully submitted,

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.

By



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Date: June 21, 2004